

# LONDONS LAMENTATION,

Or its Destruction by a Consuming Fire.

Began September 1. 1666. Being a Relation of its Beginning, and unavoidable Continuance on that most famous and magnificent City, and on part of the Suburbs.

Being an Abstract of several Letters to Citizens of *York*, dated the 3, 4, and 6. of this instant September, 1666.

London, September the 6. 1666.

SIR, This will inform you of the saddest Destruction that ever did befall to *England*, that is; The greatest part of the City of *London* is burnt down to the ground: It first began in *Pudding Lane* near *Thames street*, in a *French-Bakers-house*, the first of September: From Sunday to this instant, the Fire destroyed all from *London-bridge* to *Temple-Barr*, all *Cheapside*, the *Old Exchange*, *Post-house*, *Corn-well*, and all *Tbread-Needle-street*, and as far as *Holburn-bridge*, and all other By-Alleys and places within that compass, very few escaping.

There hath been a great many *French-men* taken with Fire-balls about them the last night: And the *French*, *Dutch* and *Walloons* are the Actors of the ruine of this famous City. There was a sad City in the Fields for Arms, the report was, that the *French* was landed, to that end to help their brethren in this wicked design, but thanks be to God it is not so. We thought *Furnivalls Inne* had been burned before now, but the fire is stopped at *Holburn Bridge*, and at the *Temple*. Men are labouring hard to quench the fire in *Fetter Lane*: there were five *French* men taken just now going to set fire on *Southamptons-Buildings* with Fire-Balls: I saw one of them, they are made long, bound hard with paper on the out-side. I hear, We have routed the *Dutch*

Vale

Dukes-Place. London, September 4. 1666.

On Sunday morning last there happened a violent fire in *Pudding Lane* in a *French Bakers house*, which hath burnt ever since, and already 7. or 8. thousand houses are consumed, the wind conspiring with the *french mens* fire-balls, which is confidently believed, are the Plotters of the Ruine of this famous City. It hath burnt from the Bridge, all along the Water-side, all *Cornwell*, and the *Exchange*, *Wood-street*, *Milk-street*, *St. Pauls*, *Ludgate*, *Billings-gate*, *Mincing-Lane*, *Mark-Lane*, and *Lyme-street*. four pound a load to a Carter, and ten shillings a day to a Porter, is small wage

Dukes-place. London, September the 6. 1666.

SIR, My last acquainted you with the sad accident of the fire, which now hath burned seven parts of the City, there is only left, *Tower-hill*, *Crotchet-fryers*, part of *Seeling-Lane*, part of *Mark Lane*, part of *fanchurch street*, *Leaden-hall street*, *Dukes-place*, *St. Mary Axe*, *Bishops-gate*, *Broad-street*, and some little pieces more. It hath consumed most part of *fleet-street*, some little of the *Temple*, and all the other side of the way, almost to *St. Dunstons Church*, & *Holburn-bridge*, but praised be God, is at present quenched.

I came directly from *Allgate* to *Holburn* over the places burnt, by direction of the Steeples remaining this day.

*South-wark*, London, September, 6. 1666.

SIR, I cannot omit but give an Account of the most sad and deplorable condition of the famous City of *London*, though my brain is crackt, and my sense and mind overcome in beholding the sad unquenchable flames. Various Reports you may hear, but believe for certain, the *Dutch*, *french* and *Jews* are the fomentors in this treacherous design. But to be brief, The fire began September the first at night in a *french Bakers* own house in *Pudding lane*, near *Thames street*, and on Sunday burned all *Thames street*, on Monday the Bridge was set on fire, and but for great care and prevention, it would have brake into *Southwark*, but by providence, escaped. On Tuesday, *Lumbert-street*, *Cannon-street*, *Cratia street*, and all those parts were in flames. On Wednesday, the *Post-house*, *Corn-hill*, *Exchange*, and all those parts were burning. On Thursday, *Cheapside*, *Doctors Commons*, *Ludgate*, *Newgate*, and all thereabouts were burning. On Thursday night, The Battlements of *Pauls* were burning, *Fleet-street*, *Sue lane*, *Hattens gardens*, and part of *Chancery lane* are burning: There is but *Leadenhall street*, *Aldgate* and *Bishops gate* that hath escaped it. Ten Baskets of fire balls and *Granadoes* are taken in the *french mens* Custody. No more, save to serve you. T. N

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